

## Message Text

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60

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 IO-04 /068 W  
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R 211617Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4948

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 13678

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, UK, SF

SUBJECT: BRITISH ROYAL NAVY JOINT WEAPONS TRAINING WITH  
SOUTH AFRICAN NAVY

1. AS ANTICIPATED, LATEST JOINT WEAPONS TRAINING BETWEEN BRITISH ROYAL NAVY SHIPS EN ROUTE ASIA AND SOUTH AFRICAN NAVY SHIPS HAS STIRRED CONSIDERABLE PRESS INTEREST IN LONDON. FACT THAT BRITISH NUCLEAR SUBMARINE WARSPITE AND LARGER NUMBER OF BRITISH VESSELS THAN USUAL TAKING PART HAS NOT BEEN OVERLOOKED BY PRESS. DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY AT FCO ALSO COMMENTED TO EMBOFFS THAT FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE ALSO TAKEN BY SURPRISE AT NUMBER OF BRITISH SHIPS PARTICIPATING. ONE LABOR MP AND YOUNG LIBERALS HAVE ATTACKED GOVERNMENT AS THEY DO ON EACH SUCH OCCASION, WITH YOUNG LIBERALS DESCRIBING JOINT WEAPONS TRAINING WITH SOUTH AFRICA "AS A DISGRACEFUL SOP TO APARTHEID."

2. COMMENT: ON THIS OCCASION, PRESS (TIMES AND GUARDIAN) USED FOREIGN OFFICE DESCRIPTION OF THESE JOINT NAVAL ACTIVITIES AS "JOINT WEAPONS TRAINING," AND NOT WORDS  
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"EXERCISES" OR "MANEUVERS," AS IN PAST. IMPORTANCE AT-

TACHED TO THEM BY GOVERNMENT IS OBVIOUS FROM GOVERNMENT'S  
WILLINGNESS TO ALLOW THEM TO CONTINUE DESPITE CRITICISM  
FROM LEFT-WING IN LABOR PARTY, ELEMENTS OF LIBERAL PARTY  
AND PRESS. IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE, HOWEVER, TO READ TOO  
MUCH INTO THIS DECISION FOR THE FUTURE ATTITUDE OF THIS  
GOVERNMENT TOWARDS SIMONSTOWN AGREEMENTS. END COMMENT.

ANNENBERG.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY PERSONNEL, PERSONNEL TRAINING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974LONDON13678  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740299-1089  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BRITISH ROYAL NAVY JOINT WEAPONS TRAINING WITH SOUTH AFRICAN NAVY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MASS, UK, SF  
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